

Amendment and Response

Applicant: Prima S. Chambers et al.

Serial No.: 10/663,608

Filed: September 16, 2003

Docket No.: G180,149,101 / 6302US

Title: MULTIPLE PACKAGED GOOD ARTICLE PACKAGE

REMARKS

This is responsive to the Final Office Action mailed July 13, 2006. In that Office Action, the Examiner rejected claim 9 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter. Further, claims 56 and 57 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Whiteside, U.S. Patent No. 5,607,056 ("Whiteside"). Claims 1-3, 8, 9, 12, 13, 16-18, 21-26, and 31 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Gloyer, U.S. Patent No. D297,916 ("Gloyer") in view of Blachon, U.S. Patent No. 4,827,114 ("Blachon") and Gandini, U.S. Patent No. 6,041,572 ("Gandini") and/or Danovaro et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,570,787 ("Danovaro"). Claims 4-7 and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the references above with respect to claim 1, and further in view of the Official Notice. Claim 11 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the references above with respect to claim 1, and further in view of Yu, U.S. Patent No. 5,278,841 ("Yu") and/or Gessford et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,880,313 ("Gessford") substituting for the Official Notice. Claims 8-10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the references above with respect to claim 1, and further in view of Kay, U.S. Patent No. 5,177,368 ("Kay"). Claims 32-36, 38-40, 47, 48, 52, 53, 56, 57, and 66 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Gloyer in view of Gandini and/or Danovaro. Claims 37, 41-43, and 59-63 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the references above with respect to claims 32 or 56, and further in view of the Official Notice. Claims 44-46, 64, and 66 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the references above with respect to claims 32 and 56, and further in view of Kay. Claim 58 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the references above with respect to claim 57, and further in view of Blachon. The Examiner's indication that claims 19 and 15 although objected to would be deemed allowable if re-written, and claims 72-74 have been deemed allowed, is noted with appreciation.

With this Response, claims 12, 13, 19, 47, 48, and 51 have been cancelled; and claims 1, 9, 16, 20, 21, 32, and 56 have been amended. Claims 1-11, 15-18, 20-46, 50, 52-68, and 70-74 are pending in the application and are presented for consideration and allowance.

35 U.S.C. §112, Second Paragraph, Rejections

Claim 9 has been amended to recite that the carrier covers a portion of at least one bar code symbol provided with the multiplicity of packaged good articles. It is respectfully submitted that this language is commensurate with the illustrations of FIGS. 5B and 6B, as well as the disclosure on page 19 of the specification. As such, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, has been traversed.

35 U.S.C. §§102, 103 Rejections

As amended, claim 1 recites a handle in the form of an elongated strip and including a transparent top film layer, an adhesive layer disposed along a back side of the top film layer, and a transparent liner film adhered to the adhesive layer and having a length less than a length of the top film layer such that the adhesive layer is exposed at the first and second end sections of the elongated strip. Support for this language is found, for example, in originally-presented claim 19. It is respectfully submitted that none of the cited references teach or suggest at least these limitations. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that amended claim 1 is allowable.

Claims 2-11, 15-18, and 20-31 depend from claim 1. Thus, for at least the reasons set forth above, it is respectfully submitted that claims 2-11, 15-18, and 20-31 are allowable over the cited art.

Claim 32 has been amended to recite that the handle is an elongated strip defining opposing first and second end sections, and including a top film layer, an adhesive layer, and a liner film layer. The liner film layer is adhered to the top film layer via the adhesive layer. Further, the liner film layer has a length that is less than a length of the top film layer such that the adhesive layer is exposed at the first and second end section. It is respectfully submitted that none of the cited references teach or otherwise suggest at least these limitations. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that amended claim 32, as well as claims 33-47, 50, and 52-55 depending therefrom, are allowable.

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Claim 56 has been amended to incorporate limitations akin to those described above with respect to amended claim 32. For at least these same reasons, then, it is respectfully submitted that amended claim 56, as well as claims 57-68, 70, and 71 depending therefrom, are allowable.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above, Applicant respectfully submits that pending claims 1-11, 15-18, 20-46, 50, 52-68, and 70-74 are in form for allowance and are not taught or suggested by the cited references. Therefore, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections and allowance of claims 1-11, 15-18, 20-46, 50, 52-68, and 70-74 are respectfully requested.

No fees are required under 37 C.F.R. 1.16(b)(c). However, if such fees are required, the Patent Office is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 50-0471.

The Examiner is invited to contact the Applicant's representative at the below-listed telephone numbers to facilitate prosecution of this application.

Any inquiry regarding this Response should be directed to either John A. O'Toole at Telephone No. (763) 764-2422, Facsimile No. (763) 764-2268 or Timothy A. Czaja at Telephone No. (612) 573-2004, Facsimile No. (612) 573-2005. In addition, all correspondence should continue to be directed to the following address:

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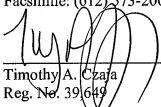
Respectfully submitted,

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